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12 July 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretariat, Economic Intelligence Committee

FROM : Secretary, EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture

SUBJECT : Annual Report for 1956-57

A. Program of the EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture during 1956-57.

1. Review of the Intelligence Product in the Subcommittee's Field of Competence.

During 1956-57 the Subcommittee spent a considerable amount of time in coordinating the forthcoming EIC study, EIC-P-12, "Policies, Performance and Prospects of Soviet Agriculture." At an early stage in the development of the study, the Subcommittee discussed and agreed upon the questions which the study should attempt to answer, and an outline of the analysis. A number of draft sections of the study (see A. 3. below) were read by members of the Subcommittee and detailed suggestions were made for incorporation into the final version of the paper.

The Subcommittee reviewed IAC-D-57/22, 5 January 1956, "Post-Mortem on NIE 13-56"; IAC-D-100/13, 21 March 1957, "Validity Study of NIE 13-56," and IAC-D-57/60, 21 March 1957. The Subcommittee identified research and collection deficiencies and made recommendations for filling the gaps (see attachment 1, "Progress Report on Priority Deficiencies of Research.")

2. Research and Collection Deficiencies.

See Attachment 1.

3. Review of Substantive Papers.

The Subcommittee reviewed the following draft sections of the forthcoming EIC study, "Policies, Performance and Prospects of Soviet Agriculture";

| Title | Agency Preparing |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Utilization of Grain in the USSR | CIA |
| Appendix on Methodology | CIA |
| Potato Events | CIA |
| Potato Methodology | CIA |
| The New Lands Program in the USSR | CIA |
| Meat Events | CIA |
| Meat and Pats Methodology | CIA |
| Meat Production in the USSR | CIA |

Title

Agency
Preparing

Soviet Agricultural Research
Soviet Agricultural Policy Since the
Death of Stalin

CIA
CIA (incorporating contribution
by the State Department)

4. Review of Proposal for External Research.

25X1A5a1 In accordance with the provisions of DCID 15/1, the Subcommittee reviewed a proposed extension by CIA/ORR of the external research project with [REDACTED] the "Agricultural Economy of the USSR." The Subcommittee reviewed the proposed extension as presented in EIC-D-224/1, 3 May 1957, and in a memorandum for the Executive Secretary, EIC, from Otto E. Guthe, 16 April 1957, subject: "Proposed Extension of External Research Project on the Agricultural Economy of the USSR."

It was the consensus of a majority of the Subcommittee that the contract extension would be useful and would cover subjects of interest. The State Department and Army representatives stated that they were not able to form an opinion on the proposed extension since the final results of work done under the present contract were not available.

5. Basic Statistics.

The draft sections of EIC-P-12 reviewed by the Subcommittee contain statistical series on the production and utilization of grain, potatoes and meat. Other sections of the paper will contain basic statistics on all important agricultural commodities, acreages, machinery, investment, etc.

6. Projects Undertaken at the Request of the EIC.

Project EIC-P-12, the project initiated by the State Department, was the only one requested by the EIC for this period.

7. Discussion of Intelligence Research Techniques.

Various informal discussions of research techniques were held by Subcommittee members in connection with the coordination of the draft sections of EIC-P-12.

8. Special Coordination Functions of the Subcommittee.

The pooling of information on Soviet crop production by specialists from the Departments of State and Agriculture, and from CIA, was continued during the past year. This cooperation resulted in the adoption of agreed estimates.

9. Evaluation of the Role of the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee has been effective as a medium for inter-agency review and coordination, and as a mechanism for improving economic intelligence research within its field of interest.


B. Future Program of the Subcommittee.

No changes in the structure or in the functioning of the Subcommittee on Agriculture are contemplated for 1957-58.

It is expected that the Subcommittee will devote considerable time in this period to the coordination of EIC-P-12.

The Subcommittee should continue to identify gaps in research and collection, approve external research projects, and serve as a coordinating body for all agencies and departments having responsibilities in food and agriculture. The Subcommittee should also be alert to indications of overt activities or situations in the field of food and agriculture throughout the world which could adversely affect the security of the United States.

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Secretary
EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture

ATTACHMENT:

"Progress Report on Priority Deficiencies of Research by EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture."